

# SOVEREIGN GRACE CHURCH

**January 29th, 2017**

“...thanks be unto GOD,  
which always causeth us to  
triumph in CHRIST...”

2 CORINTHIANS 2:14

**JOSEPH D. MURPHY, PASTOR**

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## Schedule of Services

Sunday School	10:00 am
Sunday Worship	11:00 am
Wednesday Worship	7:00 pm

### Nursery

*Nursery available for 4 years old and younger*

**This evening's featured podcast speaker will be PASTOR MARVIN STALNAKER**

**JUDGES 11:1-40 — THE SACRIFICE THAT GOD DEMANDS**

To find our podcast search for the keyword **PurposedGrace** on  
 Apple's **Podcast App** or  Google's **Play Music App**

**\*Our featured sermon is made available every Sunday at 6:00 PM**

As the LORD enables you, please remember to pray for our church family, in particular those who are *missing* and *mourning* their departed loved ones. Beloved, remember our *tragedy* is their *triumph* in CHRIST, and one blessed day it will be ours as well! ...*thanks be unto GOD, which always causeth us to triumph in CHRIST!* (2 CORINTHIANS 2:14)

## REMEMBER

“...REMEMBER, THAT YE BEING IN TIME PAST GENTILES IN THE FLESH, WHO ARE CALLED UNCIRCUMCISION BY THAT WHICH IS CALLED THE CIRCUMCISION IN THE FLESH MADE BY HANDS; THAT AT THAT TIME YE WERE WITHOUT CHRIST, BEING ALIENS FROM THE COMMONWEALTH OF ISRAEL, AND STRANGERS FROM THE COVENANTS OF PROMISE, HAVING NO HOPE, AND WITHOUT GOD IN THE WORLD: BUT NOW IN CHRIST JESUS YE WHO SOMETIMES WERE FAR OFF ARE MADE NIGH BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.”  
EPHESIANS 2:11-13

What is it to be found before a holy God without Christ? In one word, *RUINED!* Now what does that mean? It means much more than being broken. You see, when I have something that is broken, I still have hope...maybe I can fix it. God's people have been made to see, in the light of Christ, apart from Him, they are *ruined* with no hope of any self remedy.

In Ephesians chapter 2 the Holy Spirit calls us to *remember, that at that time ye were without Christ*. The prophet declares *"Hearken to me, ye that follow after righteousness, ye that seek the LORD: look unto the rock whence ye are hewn, and to the hole of the pit whence ye are digged."* (ISAIAH 51:1)

Keep this in your remembrance beloved, the rock whence you were hewn, and the hole of the pit whence you were digged. Remember the tomb of unbelief from which you were brought forth.

Friend, you and I will never be able to value the Lord's righteousness, until we have been convinced that we have none of our own! Then, once convinced of the Holy Spirit, Christ will be revealed to be our all and in all — when we feel, and know, and are convinced, of our utter and complete poverty before the Lord — then, if God be pleased, in Christ, He is *made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption*, That, according as it is written, *He that glorieth, let him glory in the LORD*. (1 CORINTHIANS 1:30)

Beloved, *remember* your former *ruined* and *dead* state without Christ. Praise the Lord for your everlasting, blessed, and secure state, in Him!

*Remember* that though you are deserving of His wrath, even as others; in Christ you have been saved with an everlasting salvation, because He has loved you with an everlasting love!

Believing sinner, the prophet declares of your salvation, *"The LORD hath appeared of old unto me, saying, Yea, I have loved thee with an everlasting love: therefore with lovingkindness have I drawn thee."* (JEREMIAH 31:3)

Beloved, *remember* we are not *the children of the devil*, but *the children of God*, and HE has drawn us with *lovingkindness* not *wrath*. And why is that? God's word says *"... because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father."* (GALATIANS 4:6)

We have received the gift of the Spirit, and cry Abba Father, because we have always been His children! While that did not seem true in our experience, in covenant grace, we have always been His children; indeed from before the foundation of the world.

In our experience we were dead, in one word — *ruined*, but in the covenant of grace we have been everlastingly redeemed according to his own purpose and grace given us in Christ Jesus before the world began. (Read 2 TIMOTHY 1:8-11, ACTS 13:47-48)

## THE BELIEVER

“TO THE PRAISE OF THE GLORY OF HIS GRACE, WHEREIN HE  
HATH MADE US *ACCEPTED IN THE BELOVED*.” EPHESIANS 1:6

The believer is perfect in Christ, but in himself is a poor, feeble creature, ever liable to fall.

Oh, the blessedness of having One who can manage all his affairs for him at the right hand of the Majesty in the Heavens: One who upholds him continually by the right hand of His righteousness: One who will never let him go: One who is able to save to the uttermost: One who is the same yesterday, today and forever: One who will bear him triumphantly through all the difficulties and dangers that surround him and finally, present him faultless before the presence of His Glory with exceeding joy.

Blessed forever be the grace that has made such ample provision for all our sins in the Blood of a spotless lamb and the intercession of a Divine High Priest.

PASTOR **SCOTT RICHARDSON** (1923—2010)

“BEHOLD, THOU HAST MADE MY DAYS AS AN HANDBREADTH; AND  
MINE AGE IS AS NOTHING BEFORE THEE: VERILY EVERY MAN AT  
HIS BEST STATE IS ALTOGETHER VANITY.” (PSALM 39:5)

## SALVATION

“...OF HIM ARE YE IN CHRIST JESUS, WHO OF GOD IS MADE UNTO US  
WISDOM, AND RIGHTEOUSNESS, AND SANCTIFICATION, AND REDEMPTION.”

1 CORINTHIANS 1:30

Salvation is the most beautiful word that a lost condemned sinner could ever hear. It includes all the blessings of grace, and all the blessings of glory. It is the washing of our consciences from guilt, the redemption of our souls from the curse of the Law, the renewing of our heart by the Spirit of God, and the freedom of our spirits from the power and dominion of sin. It is to be loved and chosen by God, justified in Christ, born again by the Holy Spirit, pardoned of all wrong doing, received into the family of God, accepted in the beloved. It is to be an heir of God, joint heir with Christ. If I am saved, I have all wisdom, righteousness, sanctification, and redemption in Christ.

PASTOR **MILTON HOWARD**